## The Jewish Gaily

FORWARD

S A N F R A N C I S C O

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

290 Dolores Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-2262

שער זהב

SIVAN/TAMMUZ 5759 JUNE 1999

#### President's Column

#### Saying Goodbye

One of my jobs every month for the last two years has been to write this

column for the Gaily Forward. At the end of my term I have much to say and do not know where to begin.

As with any serious commitment, there have been good times and hard times. The



Diana Buchbinder

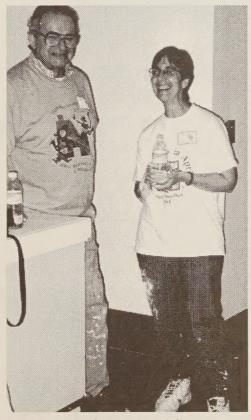
highlights include standing on the center island of Dolores Street and watching the trestles being raised by crane to form the interior of our sanctuary, marching the Torahs from Danvers Street to the new building, and the dedication weekend.

Sadly, not every occasion was happy. After many months of contract renewal discussions, Rabbi Litman requested that we seek mediation with the NCRCR. The evaluation process was difficult and required consideration of all the many facets that go into making a rabbinate successful at CSZ. While both Rabbi Litman and the Va'ad attempted to construct a process that was accessible and confidential, in the end it was with the guidance of UAHC Regional Director Rabbi Berk and the NCRCR that we were able to reach closure. Most difficult has been maintaining the confidentiality required by the report and trying to provide information to concerned congregants.

I would like to share with you some of the non-confidential comments contained in the NCRCR report. The mediators made very insightful commendations in the report; they stated, "One of the great strengths of the congregation is its tradition of strong, involved lay leadership. This must be maintained for the congregation to remain viable and growing." The report also contains recommendations for development of an evaluation process using the NCRCR Guidelines for Mutual Review, and the establishment

of a review committee. It recommends that "efforts be made to minimize, if not eliminate, anonymous inputs to the evaluator and the Rabbi." These recommendations have been taken seriously by the leadership. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented and the others are in process.

I want to say thank you to the members of the Va'ad, the staff, the committee chairs and the past presidents for their support and guidance throughout my term. Without them, and all the other members who have been there to make our community the vibrant and alive place it is, I would not have survived. As I said in my annual president's report, CSZ is an extraordinary example of commitment and what can be accomplished with common values and goals. It is with feelings of accomplishment, relief and sadness that I finish my presidency. Thank you.



Laura Lowe and Ron Miguel discussing painting strategy during Sukkot in April. Photo by Renée Bauer.

#### Sha'ar Zahav Celebrates Pride

#### Pride Shabbat Services

CSZ will host two Pride Shabbat services this year. Our traditional Friday evening service will be June 25 at 8:15 pm. This spirited service usually attracts many visitors and out-of-town guests. The oneg following services will be especially festive in celebration of Pride Weekend. We will also observe Pride Shabbat on Saturday, June 26, at 10 am. Get in the spirit of Pride Weekend and prepare to join the CSZ contingent at Sunday's parade.

#### Pride Parade

The CSZ contingent will march down Market Street on Sunday, June 27. The parade's theme this year, "Proud Heritage, Powerful Future," marks the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, and we look forward with confidence to our community's place in the millenium. CSZ is one of the few Jewish groups in the parade and we need your voice to make our proud gay Jewish presence large and visible. When else do you have the chance to dance the hora on Market Street while belting Jewish songs to a crowd of thousands? Watch for exact details of where and when the CSZ contingent will meet, or call the CSZ office for more information.

#### CSZ Trip to the Zoo

Begin the summer on a fun note! Join the CSZ family trip to the San Francisco Zoo on Sunday, June 13. This will be a special opportunity for CSZ families to relax and socialize together. We will meet at 10:30 at the Main Gate, located at Sloat Boulevard and 45th Avenue. After visiting the animals, we will join together for a group picnic; please bring your own lunch. Entrance prices to the zoo are: children 3-11 who live in San Francisco, \$1.50; children 3-11 who live outside of San Francisco, \$3; teens and adults who live in San Francisco, \$7; and teens and adults who live outside of San Francisco, \$9. RSVP to the synagogue office.

#### **April Va'ad Minutes**

—Ioe Hample, Recorder Joe Hample gave the devar torah. He noted that it was the eve of Yom ha-Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) and compared the six million to the story of Jephthah's daughter in Judges 11, slain as a human sacrifice. We recited the Holocaust Kaddish.

Liz Schaffer of the Finance Committee delivered the Treasurer's Report in Arthur Slepian's absence. Revenues were up last month and exceed budget for the year to date. We've collected 70% of budgeted dues and 33% of the year remains. Donations have also been high. Donations to the Building Fund are well above average and Kadimah revenues are rising. Expenses are down, but office and High Holiday expenses were high this year. There's \$253,000 in the Capital Campaign Fund, more than enough for the rest of the year.

Liz presented the second and final reading of the budget for fiscal year 1999-2000. Expenses are growing, partly because of the new building and partly because of the growth in programming, and are now projected to exceed \$460,000. The budget presented is balanced, but includes a variety of new or increased revenue sources plus the utilization of \$20,000 from restricted funds. Fundraising will be the primary financial challenge of the coming year.

The Finance Committee will not recommend an increase in the building assessment this year. The budget assumes no increase in membership or dues rates, yet we expect increased dues revenues because incomes increase and recent joiners will pay a full year's dues in 1999-2000. We would like to increase membership, maybe by 15%. The Finance Committee will convene "fundraising thinkers" to develop a plan. Fundraising might generate more excitement if we solicited contributions for specific funds or programs. We should also raise more from renting out the building, and from High Holiday fundraising (which won't compete with the Capital Campaign this time around).

For expenses, the Finance Committee tried to get more input from committees this year. Our committees are getting better at projecting expenses.

The Va'ad voted 10-0 to adopt the budget, with two not voting.

Educator David Shneer reported that he leaves for Russia on April 29. A

subcommittee representing the Personnel Committee and the Children's Education Board has interviewed two candidates to find an Interim Educator and hopes to announce a selection by the next Va'ad meeting. Several Kadimah teachers are returning next year and one volunteer intern will take a regular teaching slot.

The coexistence of Saturday morning services with Kadimah presents space and noise issues that may necessitate a subcommittee representing the Ritual Committee, the Children's Education Board and the Va'ad. The Educator's written report predicted expansion from five to six classes.

Program Director Renée Bauer reported in writing about successful omer meditation, tikkun olam and parentchild projects.

Administrator Lea Salem urged prompt submission of materials for the Annual Meeting. The building use proposal has been reviewed by the President's Advisory Group and the Building and Grounds Committee. It contains broad guidelines, detailed rules

Continued on page 6

#### **Opportunity Knocks!**

-Ami Zusman, Membership Chair Do you have some good ideas for educational programs or social action projects you'd like to see at CSZ, but don't know how to get them implemented? Do you want to know just what the Membership Committee does? Would you like to know more about how you can become a Shabbat service leader, or get involved with the Jewish Gaily Forward?

Get the answers to your questions at the CSZ "Opportunity Fair" on Friday, June 11, taking place before and after Shabbat services. This is your chance to "tour" many of CSZ's different committees and havurot at one time. You'll be able to talk with different committee members, learn all about what's going on at CSZ, and find out how much fun you've been missing. The Fair will be in the Oneg Room, from 7:10 to 8:10 pm, and continue again after services. There will also be a potluck Shabbat dinner that evening, at 6:30 pm, so come early to join in celebrating Shabbat with other Sha'ar Zahavniks. Please call the CSZ office by June 10 to RSVP for the dinner.



#### Lehitra'ot

-Renée Bauer, Program Director I have had the great privilege of serving as Sha'ar Zahav's program director for the past three years. It is now time for me to say goodbye. I am leaving CSZ in order to begin Rabbinic school at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia this fall.

My time at CSZ has been immensely rewarding for me both professionally and personally. I began working at CSZ soon after High Holidays 5757 (1996). I started as a 15-hour a week employee, sharing a desk with the brand new educator in the Danvers Street library. I am now a 40-hour a week employee with my own desk (and office!) in our new Dolores Street home.

Obviously, much has changed in the congregation, in this job and in me over the past three years. During my tenure here the congregation has been transformed from a small shul in a quiet residential neighborhood to a public institution on a prominent historic site. I feel proud to have helped the congregation successfully make its transition from Danvers Street to Dolores Street. and I feel lucky to have been part of this historic time in the life of the congregation.

A dynamic partnership among many lay leaders and me has enabled a dramatic expansion of programming over the last three years. We now have a number of havurot that serve different demographic populations in the synagogue, including the baby havurah, Dor Rishon, our men's group, and La'atid for our group members in their 20s and 30s. With the development of the Tot Shabbat program and the formation of our teen youth group, CSZ's children's education program now serves young people from ages 2-18. We have also begun a special education series for CSZ parents, which will continue to expand as Kadimah's family education program grows.

Our rejuvenated adult education program provides a variety of opportunities for all CSZers to engage in Jewish learning. Our social action programming has expanded greatly in the last year as well, assuring that our community takes part in the mitzvah of tikkun olam, repair of the world. In addition to ongoing programmatic work, I have had the opportunity to

work on a number of exciting one-time events, including the congregation's celebrations of leaving Danvers Street and of dedicating Dolores Street.

Creating and implementing programs at CSZ has been tremendously rewarding for me because of the many wonderful people with whom I have had the opportunity to work. I have been moved by the talent, dedication and warmth in this community. I have learned a tremendous amount from, and been touched by, the committee chairs with whom I work on a weekly (and sometimes daily) basis, the many volunteers I depend on and the participants who give purpose to all our planning.

My job would not have been so fulfilling had it not been for the amazing group of people who make up the CSZ staff. I want to thank each of them personally for their support, inspiration and friendship. I thank Melanie Kushnir for her good humor, Rabbi Litman for her wisdom and encouragement, and David Shneer for our wonderful programmatic partnership. I deeply appreciate Lea Salem, the only full-time staff member who has been at CSZ during my entire tenure, for caring so much for the congregation and keeping the synagogue's mission at the forefront of our work. I am also grateful for the opportunity I had to work with previous CSZ staff members, Tamar Malino, Rabbi Martha Continued on page 9

#### Dinner With Our Neighbors

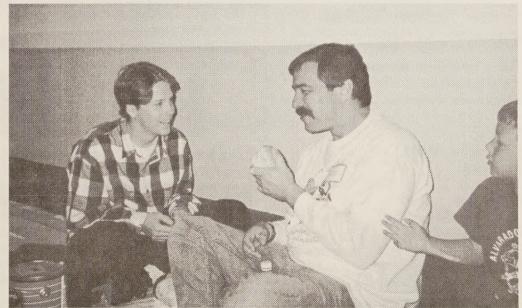
The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee is hosting dinner with our neighbors at the Dolores Street Community Services Dolores Street Shelter on June 13. The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee, with the help of a dozen CSZ volunteers, began our relationship with the shelter, which primarily serves Latino day laborers, at a dinner last November. Since then, we have hosted a second dinner and begun a collection of toiletries to donate to men who are turned away from the shelter when the beds are filled.

You can volunteer for one of two shifts from 2-7 pm, either to help prepare dinner or to help serve it and share it with the residents. We also need dessert donations, salad vegetables, nonalcoholic beverages and bread to supplement the regular meal. Call Allan Berenstein (863-8033) to sign up today.

#### **HIV+ Support Group**

CSZ has a monthly support group for members living with HIV/ AIDS and their families and partners, as well as quarterly Shabbat dinners. Mark your calendars: Saturday, June 19, 3 pm, support group meeting at CSZ.

For further information, please call the synagogue office.



Evan Kuluk, Yoel Kahn and Adam Bellm Kahn sharing lunch and stories during Sukkot in April. Photo by Renée Bauer.

#### What a Transformation!

—Laura Lowe, Social Action/ Tikkun Olam Co-chair

On Sunday, April 25, approximately 40 CSZers joined with over 500 volunteers for the third annual Sukkot in April project. Sha'ar Zahav was asked to paint the San Christina Residence, a four-story single room occupancy hotel owned by the Community Housing Project (a consortium of social service agencies, homeless advocacy organizations and developers). Most of the residents are formerly homeless. Over half of the residents have selfidentified mental health problems. On Saturday, Christmas in April volunteers started the job of renovating this beautiful old building. Our job was to finish painting the community living spaces. We painted a kitchen, a fourstory staircase, the lobby, bathrooms, a conference room, the area around the elevator on each floor and touched up the work started on Saturday.

The place began to look beautiful as we added color to once-drab walls. The San Christina Residence went from dirty yellowish walls to forest green, pale green, gold and cream. Many of the residents helped our group throughout the day. We all agreed that the transformation was stunning.

Thanks to all of the Sukkot in April participants who worked very hard throughout the day on this wonderful project. You really made a huge difference in the lives of the residents. Additionally, this project enabled the San Christina Residence consortium to show the city how much the community supports their efforts to combat homelessness. Based on the show of



Sarita Groisser painting a door during Sukkot in April. Photo by Renée Bauer.

community support from our congregation and the Christmas in April Saturday volunteers, the San Christina Residence was able to secure a \$180,000 grant from the city to complete the renovation of this beautiful old building.

Special thanks to Prudence Carter, who was the co-volunteer coordinator for the second year in a row. She helped to call volunteers, plan the menu and made the tofu-egg salad. Thanks also to Kate Warren, Ron Miguel and Char O'Neil for providing their talents and skills in planning the technical part of this project with the architects, and for taking on leadership roles on Sunday. I would like to thank Pam Erwin and Juan Pena for agreeing to provide skills leadership on the day of the event. Sarita Grossier and Renée Bauer led a short service before lunch. Mel Lehrbaum, Peter Jacobs and Jacob Rothman helped to fill out our meal with their donation of delicious pasta salad. Thanks to our outside vendors, Peet's Coffee, Katz Bagels and Noah's Bagels for donating food for our hungry volunteers.

Finally, a hearty thanks to Renée Bauer for everything from handholding, to tuna salad for 50, to service planning, to daily telephone calls. This project could not have happened without her help and leadership.

#### Social Action/Tikkun Olam Calendar

Mark your calendars and sign up for a Social Action/Tikkun Olam project now. Call either Laura Lowe (247-2409) or Allan Berenstein (863-8033) to volunteer or for more information about any of the following:

- June 13: Dolores Street Shelter
- August: Back to School Supplies Drive with San Francisco Department of Family and Children's Services
- October 17: Susan B. Koman Race for the Cure

Union of American Hebrew Congregations—Department of Adult Jewish Growth Invites YOU to attend the Reform Movement's National Jewish Learning and spirituality retreat

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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF ADULT JEWISH GROWTH Tel: 212-650-4087, email: ajgrowth@uahc.org • Visit our website-uahc.org/growth

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Layout Coordinator: Rose Katz

Editing/Proofreading/Layout: Judith Cohen, Mark Greenberg, Peter Jacobs, Brian Jersky, Sarah Nathe, David Posner, Jacob Rothman, Karen Schiller, Tory Weiser

Photography: Michael Bettinger

Advertising: Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net)

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Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California 94103, marked: attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

June 1999/Volume 22, Issue 10.



#### Baby Havurah

CSZ's voungest members—two years and under-and their parents are invited to a summer social in the park. On June 13 from 11 am-1 pm, CSZ's Baby Havurah will play in Douglass Park (Douglass and 26th Streets). Bring your own picnic lunch. If you have questions, please call Melissa Grossman-Naples at 333-3960.

#### Kadimah Joins Tot Shabbat for the Summer

Kadimah finished a successful school year on May 22, but monthly programs for school-aged children will continue through the summer, as Kadimah and Tot Shabbat host joint summer programs. In order to make the activities age-appropriate, we will have separate services for tots and for Kadimah-aged children, but will have joint art projects and social activities.

#### Tot Shabbat: Celebrating Our **Diverse Families**

Tot Shabbat will be celebrated on June 26 at 10:30 am at CSZ. Toddlers and Kadimah children will have separate Shabbat morning services and then come together for a special Pride Shabbat art project. We will create a banner representing our diverse families. The CSZ contingent will march with the banner on Sunday in the annual GLBT Pride Parade. Don't miss this festive Shabbat morning program!

#### Bar Mitzvah of Micah Barth-Rogers

Micah Barth-Rogers will become bar mitzvah on Saturday, June 12. Micah is

in the 8th grade at Lick-Wilmerding in San Francisco. and he enjoys doing theater productions, snowboarding and going out with friends. The bar mitzvah observance, Micah sees it, is



significant in that it happens only once in a person's lifetime, and it celebrates one's passage into adulthood. Micah wishes to thank Ron Lezell, his tutor, for preparing him for this important ceremony of transition.

#### **CSZ Youth Group**

-Meredith Fenton, Youth Advisor TYGGR (Temple Youth of the Golden Gate Rainbow) is the new and growing youth group of CSZ for those who have passed bar/bat mitzvah age. This year, we have had a variety of monthly social, social action and religious programs and look forward to continuing to build and grow.

Calling all 8th-12th graders: On Sunday, June 13, join TYGGR from 3-6 pm at CSZ for our last event of the year. Free food and an abundance of fun are involved, so come and bring your Jewish friends. For more information, contact Meredith at 510/434-1513 or mfenton@gtu.edu.

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#### **April Va'ad Minutes**

continued from page 2 and a tentative fee schedule pending approval from the Finance Committee. Special events won't be contracted more than six months in advance. Caterers must have liability insurance, but we can waive this requirement for small events with nonprofessional catering. A six-month trial period for the guidelines was approved.

Ron Lezell made a presentation about the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA). The Orthodox monopoly of Jewish religious expression in Israel was consolidated in 1948, when progressives had other priorities, and has been seriously challenged only in the last five years, largely at ARZA's initiative. From 1993 to 1997, the CSZ dues form included a box to check if one wished to join ARZA. In 1998, ARZA's executive director, Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, came out against rabbinic officiation at same-sex kiddushin, and CSZ dropped the ARZA box from our dues form. Rabbi Hirsch strongly supports LGBT participation in Jewish life, but fears same-sex kiddushin may harm the progressive cause in Israel. The Va'ad voted 11-1 to restore the ARZA box to the dues form, but to include a letter from CSZ's president presenting both sides of the issue.

In Rabbi Litman's absence, Lea reported one baby naming, one shiv'ah minyan, and three conversions in the last month

A brief closed session followed. Then we sang Oseh Shalom and went home.

#### East Bay Activities

Join us on June 12 at 7 pm for a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered East Bay Jewish community havdalah social and vegetarian potluck. Call for location.

Our June Shabbat celebration will be Friday June 18 at 8:15 pm. We'll share a vegetarian potluck, with candle lighting and zemirot (singing), at the home of Ida Kuluk, Susan Spott and Evan Kuluk, 4042 Maple Avenue, Oakland.

For information or directions to either event, call Ida Kuluk at 510/ 530-4673.

#### Naches

To Sara McLanahan and Brian Edlin. on their wedding.

To Aly Feldman and Donnovan Somera, on their wedding.

To Barbara Simkins and Kim Wanamaker, on their wedding.

To Sara McLanahan, on her entrance into the covenant.

To Drew Parker, Mike Siani, Carol Dawson and Linda McRoy, on the birth of their son, Elias Leon Rose.

To Stephanie Godt and Ellen Novogrodsky, on the birth of their son, Avidan René Novogrodsky-Godt.

To Sarita Groisser, who was named Project Open Hand's Volunteer of the Year.

To Ann Aptaker, on her new job at the Cartoon Museum.

To Jeff Forman, on his new position as a sales associate for designer jewelry at Neiman Marcus.

To Renée Bauer, on her acceptance to the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

To Jennifer Hirsch, on her acceptance to the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Fine Arts.

To Rena Frantz, on the inclusion of her work in the Art of Jewish Healing show at the Jewish Community Library.

To Ellie Cohen, on her new position as Executive Director of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

#### Dor Rishon June Events

Dor Rishon is Sha'ar Zahav's group for men who were adults when the congregation was founded in 1977. After a period of quiet, the group is starting the summer with a splash of programs.

Dor Rishon will begin having a first Friday of the month men's Shabbat dinner before services. Join us for our first dinner on June 4 at 6:30 pm at Chow, located at 215 Church Street at Market, for schmoozing, relaxing and getting in the Shabbat spirit before services. Call the synagogue office to RSVP.

San Francisco is everyone's favorite city, with its many wonderful neighborhoods, fabulous views and great places to visit. Here's a chance to be a carefree tourist again. On Sunday, June 20, Dor Rishon members are invited to take a City Guide tour of... well we don't exactly know yet, maybe Nob Hill or Cow Hollow or Pacific Heights...and then to top it off with a late brunch. If you are interested, call Bill Goldstein (510/793-4283) to find out more and reserve a place.

If you have ideas for future Dor Rishon programs, please call the CSZ program director with your suggestions.



Rose Katz and Rena Frantz resting after lunch during Sukkot in April. Photo by Renée Bauer.

#### Struggling to Bring Children Into Your Family

Join the peer-led support group for CSZ members who have been struggling to bring children into their families. The group is open to all CSZ members who have been longing to bring children into their families and are facing more roadblocks than expected. If you have guestions about whether this group is for you, call Judy (510/532-9661) or Alice (510/525-3670). The group meets monthly at CSZ from 7-9 pm. Upcoming dates are June 15, July 21 and August 18.

#### **New Members**

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

Leslie Kane, Manny Fishman and Shmulik Fishman

Barbara Simkins and Kim Wanamaker Andy Fyne

We are grateful that our congregation continues to grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

#### Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent

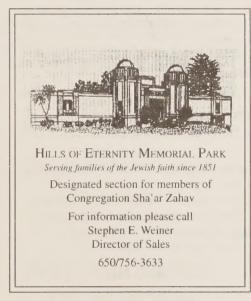
Bernard Pechter, on the death of his friend, Madeline Haas Russell.

Bobbie Becker, on the death of her father, Robert Becker.

#### Celebrate Shabbat at Sunset

—Lyssa Friedman, Ritual Chair Would you like to celebrate Shabbat with the sun streaming through our stained glass windows, then join friends for a Shabbat dinner that extends into the night? Would you enjoy sharing Friday night services with your children, but find that services last until well past their bedtimes?

Join us on the first Friday of each month from 6:30 to 7:15 pm for our early Shabbat service. This smaller, more haimish celebration allows us to honor Shabbat with a full call to worship, yet to continue your celebration later with families and friends after the kids are in bed. Our new early service begins on June 4.





#### Don't Forget!

Please drop toiletry items into the big red bin for our homeless neighbors!

#### 

#### Anniversaries

- David Klein and Robert Senter
- Richard Krieg and David Medlin 1
- 2 Beth Ross and Laura Trupin
- 2 Lillian Schaechner and Elaine Weissman
- 7 Stephanie Godt and Ellen Novogrodsky
- 9 Joe Hample and Reineres Susbilla
- 10 Judith Bell and James Greenberg
- 10 Steven Diller and Ira Johnson
- 10 Nina Jo Smith and Ruth Mahaney
- Frank Yellin and Mark Showalter 10
- 13 Dan Bellm and Yoel Kahn
- 16 Lisa Ochs and Lea Salem
- 18 Rachel Wahba and Judy Dlugacz
- 18 Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert
- 19 Dana Vinicoff and Sarah Peterson
- 21 Jeff Forman and Paul Nemrow
- 21 Debbi Jacobs-Levine and Joel Levine
- 21 Shelley M. Samuels and Robin Dubner
- 23 Laura and Julie Rosenthal-Bauer
- Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart 24
- 25 Shelley R. Adler and Nancy Showen
- 25 Suzanne Bojdak and Debra Yates
- 25 Beth Rubin and David Wish
- 29 Tova Green and Fran Peavey
- 29 Steve Lowinger and Dave Dean

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#### Members' Yahrzeits

- 2 Mark Feldman
- 8 Robert Nehemiah Mackey
- 9 **Duff Kreitzberg**
- 14 Mirtha Beal
- 16 Richard Rath
- 17 Joe Zygielbaum
- 20 Bill Valentine

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Gene B. Kaufman, Executive Director

#### Contributions

AIDS Fund in Support of the Ron Wilmot Project Inform Bike Ride

James Carlson.

Robin Leonard and Tory Weiser.

Children's Education Fund

Phyllis and George Mintzer, in memory of Rose Browner, Harriet Opal and Ann Schmier.

Perle and Marvin Press, in memory of Robert Becker.

Mary Schroeder, in memory of Anita Lahn and her special relationship with her granddaughter Isabel.

General Fund

Mike Abramson, in memory of Gertrude Oppenheimer.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Liselotte Huth.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Pauline Wolfson.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Ron Gertz. Michelle Binder, in memory of Kenny Binder.

Maxine Epstein, in memory of Bernyce Epstein.

Judge and Mrs. Charles Gordon, in honor of the birthdays of Michael Kretchmar and Travis Jinette.

Stephen Grabstein.

Jonathan Groisser and Hana Newcomb, in honor of Sarita Groisser.

Marjorie Hilsenrad, in memory of Molly Hilsenrad.

Larry Klein.

Sandy Levine, in honor of Steve Berlin, Jim Muth and Paul Cohen.

Edward Lopatin, in memory of Joyce Swader.

Dan Najjar, in support of Shabbat morning services being offered every week.

Carolyn Pines and Judy Schwartz, in memory of Judy Wexler.

Ellen Press, Bobby Becker and Gabriel Press-Becker, in memory of Robert

Ellen Press, Bobby Becker and Gabriel Press-Becker, in memory of Reuven Closter.

Fran and Michael Rappoport.

Jerry Rosenstein, in honor of David Gellman's installation as President of CSZ.

Steven and Sheryl Saginaw.

Jeffrey Sherman, in memory of Reva Sherman.

Russell and Carol Tat, in memory of Frances Wasserman.

Mark Troy, in memory of Judy Wexler. Tom Whiting.

Hannah and Charles Wiseman. David and Michelle Wolf-Bloom.

Inclusive Liturgy Fund Mike Rankin, in honor of Sarita Groisser's being selected as Project Open Hand's Volunteer of the Year.

Library Fund

Daniel Weisberg

Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign Arthur Cohen, in memory of David Cohen. Julia Friedlander, in honor of Rabbi Litman.

Julia Friedlander, in memory of Jim Fingerhut.

Arlene Gopen, in honor of Renée Bauer's acceptance to rabbinical school.

Jenn Guttler.

Ellen Kotler.

Ken Paig and Steve Collins.

Alice Prussin, with loving thanks to Smokey Cormier for all her patience and support during the building process.

Alice Prussin and Smokey Cormier, in memory of Maxine Shear.

Alice Prussin and Smokey Cormier, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Alice Prussin and Smokey Cormier, in memory of Isa Cymrot-Wu.

Rina and Anya Prussin, with love to Viva and Harper Rose on the occasion of their namings.

Karen Schiller.

Dave Whitman.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Alexandra Alznauer, in appreciation of Rabbi Litman.

Social Action Fund

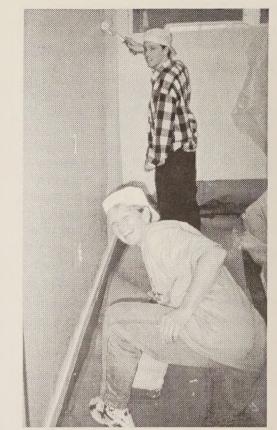
Jonathan Funk, in honor of John Arnold's birthday.

Laura Lowe, with thanks to the Sukkot in April volunteers.

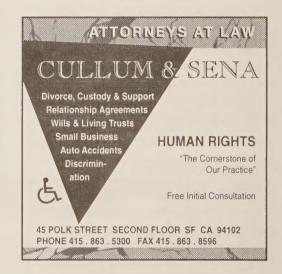
Laura Lowe, with thanks to Allan Berenstein for his support.

Torah Fund

Laura Lowe, with thanks to Donnovan Somera and Lyssa Friedman for the wonderful spiritual experience during Donnovan's welcome into the Covenant.



Pam Irwin and Evan Kuluk brightening a hallway during Sukkot in April. Photo by Renée Bauer.





NOW THAT THE CONGREGATION HAS A NEW HOME...IT'S YOUR TURN. CALL ME FOR AN APPOINTMENT.



Deborah Udin ZEPHYR Real Estate (415) 552-9500 x122

email: deudin@aol.com

#### Classifieds

BI-WOMAN, MID 40s, passionate about life, wants to meet single Jewish women (bi or lesbian) for socializing, dinner, cocktails, and discovering mutual interests. Call Gerri at 824-6523.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Make a difference for women who must travel to obtain abortion services or other reproductive health care. Volunteers needed in SF, East Bay, South Bay, throughout northern and central California to provide a ride, a safe place to stay, and other practical assistance. Without access to care, there is no choice. Call ACCESS (Becca or Mona) at 510/923-0822.

BISEXUAL FEMALE/MALE COUPLE seeking 1-2 co-parents with whom to create family, share parenting resources, extend community. We are open to biological or adopted children, are politically progressive, working class backgrounds, into alternative, creative family structures. Call Louisa @ 584-8475 or Jim @ 337-4566.

NICE JEWISH GIRL RELOCATING to San Francisco from NYC seeks housing. Flexible as to rental, share or sublet and also as to the move in date. Stable, employed and reliable. Local references available. Please contact Lea Salem in the CSZ office for more information.

WEBSITE DESIGN, PRODUCTION, and Management. Experienced editor, graphic artist and webmaster can create a professional web presence for your business or organization-stressing communications, presentation and craftsmanship. Contact Henry at 863-4910 or henry@hanksite.com.

CSZ TEEN looking for babysitting and mother's helper work. Call G. Lindsey at 334-4784 for information.

CO-PARENTING OPPORTUNITY DESIRED: I am a 42-year old established, professional, Jewish, gay man living in San Francisco who eagerly seeks a lesbian (or lesbian couple) for the co-parenting of a child. Details of our shared responsibilities, both custodial and financial, are flexible. I believe it's very important to have a healthy balance amongst cultural, spiritual, open-minded family and community values. Becoming a parent has been my dream ever since I can remember. How about with you?... If so, please contact me at 282-5577.

SEARCHING FOR SHARE RENTAL: Former CSZ member Bill Ashley-Dobbin is looking to come home. I am a gay 54-year-old nonsmoker living on a fixed income. I can pay about \$300 per month. After laughter contact me at 285-3607.

LESBIAN COUPLES with one child needed for dissertation research on couple relationship and decision-making regarding having another child. Participation involves completing questionnaires. For information, please call 415/273-7252 or email ddesmond@sirius.com.

CO-PARENT WANTED: I am a 34-year-old warm. educated, financially secure, CSZ member who will make a great dad. Looking for a woman or couple in the area interested in co-parenting. Flexibility, communication, stability, and raising the child in a loving and nurturing environment key. Call 415/552-9212.

OUR FAMILY IS GROWING & we need more space! We are current CSZ members who are expecting the arrival of our first child in April 1999. We are desperately seeking an affordable two bedroom flat, apartment or house to rent. Please call Ellen & Stephanie at 415/285-3626 or 415/552-6734 with any possible leads.

ALL THINGS MACINTOSH: Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring and more. Roslyn, 510/526-1209.

TROPICAL PARADISE—Kauai vacation rental: 2 cottages & 1 bedroom house on private drive sharing lush garden. Centrally located. Call Sandy Meyers (808/822-7537) or e-mail sand@aloha.net.

#### Do you have e-mail?

Drop us a line at office@shaarzahav.org

#### Are you on the Net?

Visit our web site at www.shaarzahav.org

#### Lehitra'ot

continued from page 3 Bergadine and Amy Clark. Each of them made coming to work every day enjoyable.

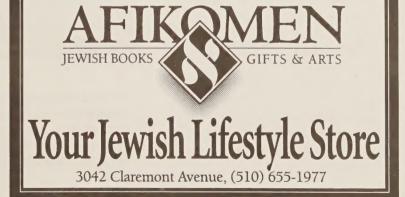
CSZ has been my spiritual home as well as my place of employment over the past three years. I often daven with the congregation on Shabbat and holidays because I find the service spiritually fulfilling. At Shabbat services on Friday, June 4, I will be giving the sermon as a way to say goodbye to the congregation. My last day in the office will be June 9. I say lehitra'ot (see you later) instead of shalom (goodbye) because I know I will remain connected to CSZ and the many friends I have made here. Thank you for allowing me to grow with you and learn from you these past few years. May you, as individuals and as a community, continue to grow from strength to strength.

#### **Oneg Sponsors**

These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat in recent weeks:

- Yeva Johnson, in honor of her entrance into the covenant.
- 5/7 Membership Committee, in honor of new members.
- Ritual Committee, in honor of Dev Felder Noily's service to the community and her leaving for Rabbinical School.
- Florence and Gary Feldman, in honor of Aly Feldman and Donnovan Somera's aufruf and wedding.
- Michael Sarid, in honor of his taking a new name.





#### 444444444444

#### **Birthdays**

- 1 Donald Abrams
- 2 Lisa Feldstein
- 2 Nina Wouk
- 3 Hayden Houser
- 3 Shoshana Jacobs-Levine
- 4 Hanya Barth
- 4 Ora Prochovnick
- 5 Rick Crane
- 5 Katye Gulley
- 6 Marsha Blachman
- 6 Sasha Cuttler
- 6 Nina Jacobs-Levine
- 7 Heidi Biegel
- 8 Marianne Balin
- 8 Brian Besser
- 8 Daniel Sadlier
- 9 Barbara Becker
- 9 Laura Lowe
- 9 Glenn Shor
- 10 Claudia Bernard
- 10 Daniel Chesir
- 10 Rose Katz
- 11 Timothy Rubin
- 11 Annie Winters
- 12 Susan Simpson
- 13 Troy Cascia
- 15 Arielle Rosenthal-Bauer
- 15 Zachary Shelton
- 15 Steven Wiesner
- 16 Christopher Hornby-Finch
- 16 Nancy Levin
- 16 Monica Levin
- 16 Shayna Prochovnick
- 17 Adam Bellm Kahn
- 17 Pieter de Haan
- 18 Jason Gaber
- 18 Susan Lubeck
- 19 Isaac Chotiner-Whitebook
- 19 James Cohen
- 20 Susan Mizner
- 20 Larry Wexler
- 21 Leyna Bernstein
- 21 Suzanne Friedman
- 21 Eileen Levy
- 21 Richard Sinkoff
- 22 Sarita Groisser
- 22 Margaret Rossoff
- 23 Deborah Agre
- 23 Louis Hirschmann
- 25 Dyan Dreisbach
- 25 Steve Weiner
- 26 Marc Lipschutz
- 26 Esta Soler
- 27 Amanda Littauer
- 28 Lisa Katz
- 29 Emma Buchbinder
- 29 Eve Meyer

#### 4444444444

#### Synagogue Information

#### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street

San Francisco, CA 94103-2262

861-6932 (voice); 861-6081 (fax)

office@shaarzahav.org (email)

http://www.shaarzahav.org (web)

#### Officers:

President, Diana Buchbinder (337-6319, threebuchs@sprvnet.com, or president@

shaarzahav.org)

First Vice President, David Gellman

Second Vice President, Susan

Tubbesing

Treasurer, Arthur Slepian Recorder, Joe Hample

#### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Ellie Cohen

Jeff Forman

Sarita Groisser

Sara Haber

Lisa Katz

Robin Leonard

Eileen Levy

Jacob Rothman

David Stein (ex officio)

Robert Tat

#### CSZ Staff:

Educator, David Shneer

on leave

Administrator, Lea Salem

office@shaarzahav.org

Program Director, Renée Bauer

programdirector@shaarzahav.org

Kadimah Head Teacher, Phyllis Mintzer

Administrative Assistant, Melanie Kushnir

Youth Advisor, Meredith Fenton

#### Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Sue Bojdak

Archives, open

ARZA contact, Ron Lezell

Baby Chavurah, Melissa Grossman-Naples

Bequests and Donations, Richard

Inlander

Bikkur Cholim, open

Bisexual Havurah, Jim Frazin

Book Group, Mark Mackler

Building and Grounds, Arthur Cohen

Bylaws, Edward Pollock

Cemetery, Richard Inlander

Children's Education Board, Ruth Rainero

Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard

Dor Rishon, open

Dues Liaison, Eric Temple

East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler

Endowment Fund, Merry Luskin Environmental Action, Barak Gale

and Brian Besser

Finance, Arthur Slepian

Fine Arts, Bob Gutterman

Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin

La'atid, Geoff Benjamin
Leadership Development, Paul

Cohen

Library, Joan Goldman

Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold

Membership, Ami Zusman

Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign,

Ellie Cohen

Newsletter, Robin Leonard

Past Presidents Council, Merry

Luskin

Personnel, David Gellman

Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky

Ritual, Lyssa Friedman

Social Action, Laura Lowe and

Allan Berenstein

Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Ilana

Bernstein

UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin

UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel

Chesir

WCGLBJO Liaison, Neil Grungras

Women's Havurah, open

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office. **Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

#### JUNE

## םיון תנדוז

- Tuesday 17 Sivan
- 6:30 pm, Dues committee
- Wednesday 18 Sivan
- 7:30 pm, Jewish Spirituality Through Movement
- 3 Thursday 19 Sivan
- 6:30 pm, Siddur committee
- 4 Friday 20 Sivan
- 6:30 pm, Dor Rishon men's Shabbat dinner
- 6:30 pm, Early service, led by Paul Cohen
- 8:09 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service, led by Paul Cohen and Micah Barth-Rogers, sermon by Renée Bauer
- 5 Saturday 21 Sivan

Shabbat Beha'alotkha

- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 10 am, Laughing on Shabbat service, led by Henry Mach
- 6 Sunday 22 Sivan
- 7 Monday 23 Sivan
- · 6 pm, Healing service
- 8 Tuesday 24 Siyan

- 9 Wednesday 25 Sivan
- 7 pm, Newsletter editing
- 10 Thursday 26 Sivan
- Friday 27 Sivan
- 6:30 pm, Opportunity Fair and Shabbat potluck
- 7:15 pm, Niggun service
- 8:13 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service, led by Jeff Piade and Tiela Chalmers, dedication of Ner Tamid
- 12 Saturday 28 Sivan

Shabbat Shelah

- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 10 am, Bar Mitzvah of Micah Barth-Rogers, led by Eileen Levy and Frank Yellin
- 7 pm, East Bay LGBT Havdalah
- 13 Sunday 29 Sivan
- 10:30 am, CSZ trip to San Francisco Zoo
- 11 am-1 pm, CSZ Baby Havurah in Douglass Park
- 2–7 pm, Social Action dinner with residents of Dolores Street Shelter
- 3-6 pm, Youth group
- 6 pm, Newsletter proofreading and layout
- 14 Monday 30 Sivan
- · 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting

- 15 Tuesday 1 Tammuz
- 7 pm, Support group for People Struggling to Bring Children Into Their Families
- 16 Wednesday 2 Tammuz
- 17 Thursday 3 Tammuz
- 18 Friday 4 Tammuz
- 8:15 pm, East Bay services
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service, led by Howard Steiermann and Lyssa Friedman, installation of new officers and Va'ad members
- 8:16 pm, Candle lighting
- 19 Saturday 5 Tammuz

Shabbat Korah

- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 10 am, Tikkun Olam Shabbat, led by Ora Prochovnick
- Noon, Health and Aging "Primarily Men," with Dr. Antoinette Rose
- 3 pm, HIV+ support group
- 20 Sunday 6 Tammuz
- Dor Rishon San Francisco Walking Tour and Brunch
- 21 Monday 7 Tammuz
- 7 pm, Membership committee

- 22 Tuesday 8 Tammuz
- 23 Wednesday 9 Tammuz
- 24 Thursday 10 Tammuz
- 7 pm, Ritual committee
- 25 Friday 11 Tammuz
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Freedom service, led by Lyssa Friedman and Steve Weitz, sermon by Nina Wouk
- 8:17 pm, Candle lighting
- 26 Saturday 12 Tammuz

Shabbat Chukat-Balak

- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 10 am, Shabbat service, led by Greer Hauptman, Eileen Levy and Frank Yellin
- 10:30 am, Tot Shabbat with Kadimah, honoring our diversity
- 27 Sunday 13 Tammuz LGBT Pride Parade
- Monday
- 4 Tammuz
- 29 Tuesday 15 Tammuz
- 30 Wednesday

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

## JULY/AUGUST FORWARD DEADLINE MONDAY, JUNE 7

#### ADVERTISING

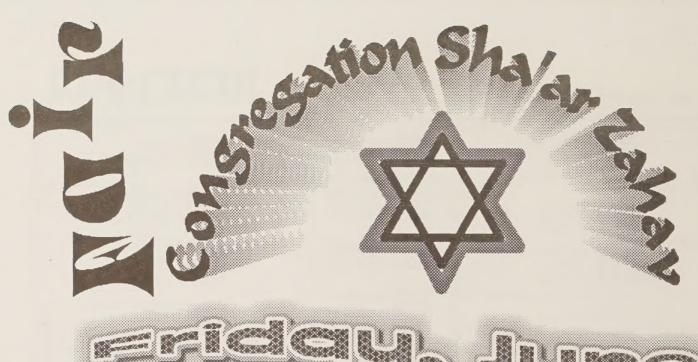
To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn @earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

#### ARTICLES

Please submit articles via e-mail to robinl@nolo.com. If you do not have e-mail, please submit them on a 3½-inch disk and mail to CSZ. No late submissions will be accepted without prior approval of the Forward editor.

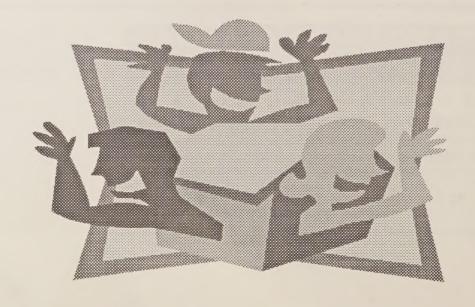
#### **East Bay Services**

June 18, 8:15 pm, at the home of Ida Kuluk, Susan Spott and Evan Kuluk, 4042 Maple Avenue, Oakland, 510/530-4673.



# june

Join fellow CSZ members for a vegetarian potluck at 6:30 PM, then from 7:15 -8:15 PM talk to members of various CSZ committees and chavurot about getting involved and participating! Following services, there will be more time to shmooze and talk with committee and chavurah members



at all possible, please RSVP to SSZ office at (415) 861-6932